

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 24, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Claims 1-14 remain pending in this application, with claims 1 and 6 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action mailed March 24, 2004, claims 1-3, 6-9, and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art ('APA') in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,259,780 ('Sherwood').

Claims 4, 5, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over APA and Sherwood in further view of U.S. Patent No. 5,345,501 ('Shelton').

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over APA and Sherwood in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,195,541 ('Griffith').

Before discussing the cited prior art and the Examiner's rejections of the claims in view of that art, a brief summary of the present invention is appropriate. The present invention provides a method and system for transmitting subscriber-specific information in a telecommunication system. The telecommunication system of the invention includes a telecommunication network 1, a first terminal 3, a second terminal 4, and a conversion/transmission center 2 (see page 9, lines 3-7; and Fig. 1 of the specification). The first and second terminals 3, 4 are connected to the conversion/transmission center 2 by the telecommunication network 1 (page 9, lines 3-8). An actuating device 5 for, or implementing, automatic operation is connected to the second terminal 4 (page 9, lines 8-10). The system also includes means 6 for modifying the A-number field of a call request that is to be sent from the conversion/transmission center 2 to the second terminal 4 (page 9, lines 11-13). The A-number field accompanies or is sent with a call

request and conventionally includes information identifying a calling party, i.e., caller ID information (page 2, line 20 - page 3, line 2; and page 4, lines 10-11).

When a caller, such as a user of the first terminal 3, calls a second terminal 4, the call request is routed through the conversion/transmission center 2 such that both terminals 3, 4 are connected to the conversion /transmission center 2 (page 5, lines 2-5). When the user makes the call, optional numbers or digits are added to the intended receiver's normal identification number, i.e., the B-number (page 5, lines 6-9). The conversion/transmission center 2 then modifies the A-number field of the call request by appending the supplementary information or by replacing the contents of the A-number field with new information such as the supplementary information appended to the B-number in the caller's dialing string (page 5, lines 10-14). When the call request is received by the second terminal 4, the actuating device 5 is controlled on the basis of the supplementary information contained in the modified A-number field (page 5, lines 14-19). Accordingly, the A-number field in the call request that is received by the second terminal is modified in the telecommunication network by the conversion/transmission center 2. Stated another way, the call request that is transmitted from the conversion/transmission center 2 to the second terminal over the telecommunication network contains the modified A-number field.

Independent claims 1 and 6 have now been amended to clarify that the modification to the A-number field in the call request is performed by the conversion/transmission center 2 which is in the telecommunication network. More specifically, independent claims 1 and 6 now recite "modifying an A-number field to be transmitted from the conversion/transmission center in the telecommunication network to the second telecommunication terminal in connection with the call by one of adding control information to the A-number field and replacing the A-number field with the control information". Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 6 each require that

the call request received by the second terminal include an A-number field that has been modified by the conversion/transmission center 2 in the telecommunication network.

Sherwood discloses a telephone system in which a caller ID detector/decoder 10 is connected via a serial or parallel bus 16 to a phone 15 and a computer 14 with an application process 12 that uses caller ID information (see Fig. 1 and col. 3, line 64 to col. 4, line 6 of Sherwood). The caller ID detector/decoder 10 formats received caller ID information and sends the formatted caller ID information to the computer 14 by the bus 16 (col. 4, lines 10-14). Since the caller ID detector/decoder 10 of Sherwood is connected to the phone 15, the caller ID detector/decoder is not the claimed conversion/transmission center 2 which is connected to the first terminal and the second terminal by the telecommunication network. In Sherwood, the A-number field in the call request is not modified, as recited in independent claims 1 and 6. Rather, the caller ID data in the A-number field is received in its original state from the telecommunication network and the caller ID data is formatted and sent to the computer 14. The computer 14 is not a second terminal which receives a call request from the telecommunications network with a modified A-number field. In fact, the caller ID detector/decoder 10 does not add to or modify the A-number field. The caller ID detector/decoder 10 of Sherwood merely extracts the caller ID data from the A-number field in the received standard call request and modifies the extracted caller ID data. The modified caller ID data is then sent to the computer 14. Therefore, Sherwood fails to teach or suggest "modifying an A-number field to be transmitted from the conversion/transmission center in the telecommunication network to the second telecommunication terminal in connection with the call by one of adding control information to the A-number field and replacing the A-number field with the control information", as recited in independent claims 1 and 6.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, independent claims 1 and 6 are deemed allowable over the Admitted Prior Art and Sherwood.

Dependent claims 2-5 and 7-14, each being dependent on one of independent claims 1 and 6, are deemed allowable for at least the same reasons expressed above with respect to independent claims 1 and 6.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance, and early notice to that effect is solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any such fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By 

Lance J. Lieberman
Reg. No. 28,437
551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210
New York, New York 10176
(212) 687-2770

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